

## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.1 Background of the Study**

Nowadays racism is an ongoing problem in the world. Most people in the world still discriminate between black and white people. Besides, some people not only hate one skin colors but also hate one religion, ethnicity, and nationality. A simple definition of racial discrimination, this refers to the unfair treatment of a person or group based on racial ethnicity. Many experts divide the definition into two parts based on different treatments and impacts: Different treatments occur when individuals are treated unequally because of their race. (Reskin 1998, p. 32; National Research Council 2004, pp. 39-40).

The virtue of the definition of discrimination is the focus on behavior. Discrimination differs from racial prejudice (attitude), racial stereotyping (belief), and racism (ideology) which may also be related to racial disadvantage (see Quillian 2006). Discrimination can be motivated by prejudice, stereotyping, or racism, but the definition of discrimination does not presume a unique underlying cause.

Some surveys involving African-Americans and other minor minorities about their experiences of discrimination at work, are discriminated when they seek housing and other daily social arrangements (Schuman et al. 2001). According to a 2001 survey, it was found that almost 20% or one third of Hispanic and Australian people reported that they had been personally trafficked for work or promotion because of their race or ethnicity (Schiller 2004).

The frequency of discrimination is reported not to decrease among those who have a higher degree in the social hierarchy. In fact middle-class black people are more likely to see or feel discrimination (Feagin & Sikes 1994, Kessler et al. 1990). Research shows that those who experience or have high levels of discrimination often experience depression, anxiety disorders and other negative things (Kessler et al. 1990). Discrimination that is felt can also lead to reduce efforts or performance in education or the workforce, which hereby gives negative results (Ogbu 1991; Steele 1997; Loury 2002, pp. 26-33).

In the 1960's, racism in Mississippi had one of the greatest racism histories among American and African Americans. White American actions had negative impact on a subordinate racial group. White American could do anything to threaten the African American for example, the bathrooms used by white American should not to be used by African Americans.

To distinguish institutional racism can be seen from individual bigotry or racial bias with the presence of systematic policies and practices in institutions that effectively harm certain racial or ethnic groups. There are institutions whose power to uphold and perpetuate policies and practices is invested in white people in institutional racism. Entered the Deep South in the 1960s many civil rights activists were blocked by a total institution (Carmichael & Thelwell, 2003; forman, 1972)

Every human institution in the southern cities of the United States, organized openly around a racial hierarchy - Jim Crow's Law. Parks, schools, shop entrances, courts, cinemas, jobs, housing, churches, swimming pools, libraries and even graves are racially separated. White people have better facilities, and black

people have the worst. Racism is covered with black-and-white racial hierarchies as a result, just as in the south. The difference between north and south is in their institutional expression of racism. They are two different ways to organize racial hierarchies. Both methods have the same goal, namely Black subordination.

There are many movie used racism as the theme. There are *The Help* (2016), *12 Years A Slave* (2013), and *Hidden Figures* (2016). These three movies discuss differences in skin color in the 19th century. This research aims to understand racism especially institutional racism in hidden figures movie by Theodore Melfie and written by Allison Schroeder and Melfie.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

From the background above, the focus of the study deals with the following problems :

1. What are the causes of racial discrimination in the form of institutional racism in *Hidden Figures* (2016) movie?
2. How racial discrimination in the form of institutional racism are reflected in the movie?

## **1.3 Objective of the Study**

Objective of the study is related with statement of the problem. Based on the statement of the problem above we can obtain:

1. To describe the causes of racial discrimination in the form of institutional racism in *Hidden Figure* (2016) movie.

2. To find out racial discrimination in the form of institutional racism are reflected in the movie.

#### **1.4 Scope of the Study**

This research focuses on the characters of *Hidden Figures* (2016) movie. Most the characters in this movie portray African American. And this study discusses on the institutional racism about the cause, action, and effect. The African Americans were treated unfairly by White American in 1960s.

#### **1.5 Significance of the Study**

This research enriches the knowledge of racism, especially about institutional racism. Hopefully, this study would be able for the readers to understanding about institutional racism. This is expected to give additional knowledge and insight for fellow students.

#### **1.6 Approaches of the Study**

This approach “seeks to understand a literary work by investigating the social, cultural, and intellectual context that produced it a context that necessarily includes the artist’s biography and milieu.” A key goal for historical critics is to understand the effect of a literary work upon its original readers. This study focuses on the analysis of institutional racism in *Hidden Figures* (2016) movie. The data were gathered by watching the movie, script movie, and identifying the data. Then, research analysis by applying racism theory.

## **1.7 Organization of the Paper**

Chapter one is introduction that consists of background to the study, statement of the problem, objective of the study, scope of the study, approaches of the study, significance of the study, and research paper organization. Chapter two explains about the biographies of Theodore Melfie and Allison Schroeder as the authors and the synopsis of *Hidden Figures* movie. Chapter three contains of review of related literature. Chapter four presents analysis or discussion. In this chapter the researcher will explain and answer the question in the statement of the problem from chapter one. Chapter five contains the conclusion and suggestion.